(f) Holding of Special Immunization campaign annually for immunizing earlier missed out children. A Special Immunization and Newborn Care Week for the period 14-21st Nov 2009 has been taken up.

(g) Holding Hepatitis day every year on 4 December for creating awareness. This is being undertaken every year since 1998.

(h) Celebrating Breast feeding week on 1-7th August every year through organizing awareness & service delivery events at almost all the facilities. During 2008 & 2009 State organized 52 & 165 such events.

(i) Integrated Management of Neonatal & Childhood Illnesses (IMNCI) has been started in 3 districts with poor health indicators as per District Level Health Survey (DLHS) 3 report. Training to 110 Medical Officers from primary health facilities and its staff has helped in improved family level and facility level care to infants and young children.

(j) Similarly the pre-service Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (IMNCI) have been initiated in all 5 medical colleges, thus equipping the under graduate students in important aspects of Infant and Young Child care services.

(k) Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) trainings to about 200 Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANMs) & Lady Health Visitor (LHVs) and another 159 MOs from the primary urban health facilities have been completed thereby building capacity in quality monitoring & oversight on Reproductive Child Health (RCH) services.

Strategies to control spread of H1N1 virus

*70. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that H1N1 virus is spreading very fast in the country, particularly in the metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the exact number of patients who died from infection by H1N1 virus, out of the total number of patients reported for treatment;

(c) whether the Central Government's directions to State Governments to handle such cases have been given proper attention; and

(d) if so, the strategies formulated to contain this disease in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) 537 patients have died (as on 19.11.2009) due to pandemic influenza A H1N1, out of a total of 16044 laboratory confirmed cases spread over 26 States and four Union Territories.

Proper attention is being paid to the guidelines issued by Ministry of Health & FW, Government of India. Senior officers of the level of Additional Secretaries and Joint Secretaries visited all the states to follow up preparedness and response of the State Government. Areas needing attention were brought to their notice. A planning check list was also provided to the State Governments.

For States/Union Territories reporting community spread, a mitigation strategy of triage and curative treatment is followed. For those not reporting community spread, the strategy is to limit/contain, the spread of infection by surveillance, early detection, isolation, treatment, contact tracing and providing Chemoprophylaxis.

Diversion of ink and paper used for currency notes

*71. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn the attention of the countries supplying high quality ink and paper used for printing currency notes that their products are being diverted to anti-Indian forces, who are printing and circulating fake Indian currency notes to destabilise the Indian economy;

(b) if so, the reactions of the countries whom Government has approached;

(c) whether any new fool-proof technology would be enforced to check fake currency notes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The fake Indian currency notes detected by banks and seized by the law enforcing agencies have not made use of security paper and ink of the same specifications, as used in the Indian bank notes. Therefore, taking up the issue with countries, from where the ink and paper are procured, does not arise.

(c) and (d) The security features of the Indian bank notes are upgraded from time to time with a view to check counterfeiting. Last series of bank notes with upgraded security features was issued in 2005. New series of banknotes with further upgraded security feature is scheduled to be issued in 2011.

Financial crisis in Air India

*72. SHRI B.K HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a final decision to rescue Air India from its present financial crisis;

(b) whether most of the countries have got over their fixation of owning a State airline or national flag carrier;

(c) if so, whether there are no obvious solutions for Air India within the ambit of Government ownership; and

(d) whether Government's aid package will be conditional to Air India embarking on manpower rationalization by paring its staff to about half its current strength of 32,000?